

TWO VALUABLE POINTS

Stephenson's Winner at Aldershot

(By CRUSADER.)

LUTON TOWN'S first victory away from home this season was well earned. From the start of the game at ALDERSHOT it was apparent that they were the more skilful side, but Aldershot, as usual, had a very sound defence, and plenty of determination in all ranks. Though there was no marked uneasiness among the town supporters, who were present in good numbers, the scoring of the goal soon after the interval was a reassuring event.

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THIS was scored by Stephenson, and the honour could not have been more appropriately placed, for he had been the most persistent and the most effective forward in the game. That does not deter one from giving all praise to others, but his part had perhaps been the more spectacular, since he had a lot of the ball, and was able to do things with it.

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THE chance, however, came as the result of splendid work on the right wing, where Brown made play with Sam Bell and Martin, and the latter centred squarely for STEPHENSON to rush up and score with a terrific shot from close range. This occurred five minutes after change of ends, but the first half had been fought at a great pace and with plenty of spirit on either side. Aldershot were just as determined as the town, but they did not develop the combination so well.

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THE best chances were also at the Aldershot end, and Robb had much more work to do than Coen. The Aldershot goalkeeper was very fortunate to get in the way of a shot from Tom Bell, who was only three or four yards away, and with all the goal to shoot at save that portion covered by Robb. Another shot from Sam Bell at similar range was luckily blocked by an opponent, and Robb also made one or two neat saves.

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FOR the most part, however, the backs were so vigilant that they prevented the opposition getting in many shots. At the town end, Coen made a fine save from Bunch, and Waterston saw, as the end of a plucky effort, the ball beat Coen, but travel just beyond the farther post. On another occasion Fraser headed away in solid style when the rest of the defenders were beaten.

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AFTER the goal the town had to resist strenuous efforts by the home side, but these were worn down, and in subsequent play the town frequently came near adding to their lead. Their play all round elicited the more admiration from the crowd, or those sensible people who were not storming at their own players or the town defenders.

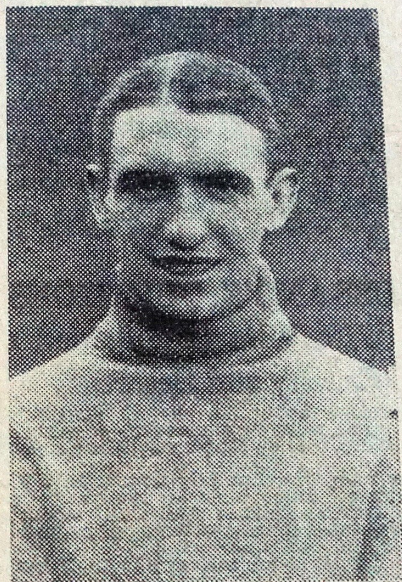
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AS in the Swindon match, there was much better team spirit among the town players. They looked and acted more like a team, helping each other, the forwards going to the assistance of the halves, and the latter covering up the backs. Indeed, the understanding between backs and halves was remarkably good, and in the side, as a whole, there was any amount of energy and thrust.

SOON after the start Martin was hurt, and he and Sam Bell changed places. Martin put up a really fine game on the extreme wing, and as Sam Bell was as ready for a shot and as sharp as a needle in his general play, the attack was infused with more life. Similarly on the left wing, Stephenson, who played a magnificent game throughout, changed places with Rennie in the second half, and made things hot for the sturdy Aldershot defenders. Tom Bell was usually overpowered, but put up his customary plucky show.

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BBROWN was the best half-back on view, and some of his work was really brilliant, for he frequently had the home defenders running the wrong way. He and Fraser



W. BROWN

kept the attack on the move, and Thayne played sturdily at centre-half, while behind them Mackey was the big figure, steadying the rearguard at trying moments and encouraging the side always. Kingham did well against Lee, one of the strongest wingers in the Southern Section, and Coen did his small but important part efficiently.

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LUTON TOWN 1
(Stephenson)

ALDERSHOT 0

ALDERSHOT.—Robb; Wade, McDougall; Summerbee (Gordon), Oakes, Summerbee (Geo.); Williams, Bunch, Waterston, Black, Lee.

LUTON TOWN.—Coen; Kingham, Mackey; Brown, Thayne Fraser; Bell (S.), Martin, Bell (T.), Rennie, Stephenson.

Referee: Mr. G. T. Gould, London.